



State of Arizona

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Governor Jan Brewer Launches GovNET Telecom Project

Program will Increase Broadband, Communication Capacity throughout Arizona

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today celebrated the official launch of a telecommunications project that will create Arizona jobs and expand communication and broadband capabilities throughout the State of Arizona.

“The launch of GovNET marks an exciting time for our state, especially our underserved, rural communities,” said Governor Jan Brewer. “Not only does this program create much-needed jobs for Arizonans, it provides broadband capacity that will create new economic opportunities and draw Arizona residents together in a truly meaningful way.”

This project is made possible by a \$39.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NITA). The 2010 grant was awarded as part of an initiative to build a statewide microwave and fiber network to increase broadband capacity and internet connectivity in each of Arizona’s 15 counties.

Expanded broadband and internet capabilities means increased efficiency in all Arizona institutions. For instance, rural schools and libraries will be enhanced by the technology. Communication between public safety and law enforcement agencies will be strengthened and more direct, potentially improving operations along the border. Hospitals in metropolitan areas will be able to provide remote diagnoses and treatments for rural hospitals, an improvement with the potential to save lives.

“In this 21st Century economy, Internet access and jobs go hand-in-hand,” said Governor Brewer. “GovNET will play a crucial role in creating new economic opportunities by helping close the technology gap for rural Arizonans.”

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